### Situation Overview: Jonglei State, South Sudan

April-June 2019

#### REACH An initiative of IMPACT Initiatives ACTED and UNOSAT

### Introduction

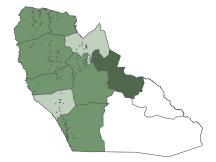
In the second quarter of 2019, the humanitarian crisis in Jonglei State continued. Humanitarian actors are unable to assess many areas in the region due to access and resource constraints. As a result, only limited information is available on the humanitarian situation outside of a few large towns and displacement sites.

To inform humanitarian actors working outside formal settlement sites, REACH has conducted assessments of hard-to-reach areas in South Sudan since December 2015. Data is collected on a monthly basis through interviews with key informants with knowledge of a settlement and triangulated with focus group discussions (FGDs).

### **Key Findings**

- Displacement driven by insecurity and access to goods and services continued this quarter. Towards the end of the reporting period, flooding reportedly resulted in limited road access. The reporting period also saw a temporary influx of individuals returning to their area of origin to assist with preparation for cultivation, particularly in the Greater Akobo region.<sup>3</sup>
- Food security and livelihoods (FSL) needs across Jonglei remained high, despite the onset of the wet season and increased access to cultivation and livelihood

### Map 1: REACH assessment coverage of Jonglei State, April 2019



Map 2: REACH assessment coverage of Jonglei State, May 2019



activities such as fishing. As in March, Canal/Pigi County had the lowest proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in June (8% of assessed settlements), likely due to a reported increase in health issues triggered by poor WASH conditions, which reduced household ability to cultivate and fish. **Reliance on humanitarian assistance increased in the Greater Akobo region;** in June, 100%

# Map 3: REACH assessment coverage of Jonglei State, June 2019



0 - 4.9%
5 - 10%
11 - 20%
21 - 50%
51 - 100%
Assessed settlement

of assessed settlements in Uror and Nyirol reported humanitarian food assistance as the main source of food, compared to 83% and 76% in March respectively. This increase was likely due to returnees putting pressure on dwindling food supplies at the end of dry season.

Cattle raiding and insecurity continued to drive protection concerns, particularly

# of key informant interviews conducted: 1,201
# of assessed settlements: 827
# of counties covered: 9 (of 11)
# of focus group discussions conducted: 27

### METHODOLOGY

To provide an overview of the situation in hard-toreach areas of Jonglei State, REACH uses primary data from key informants who have recently arrived from, recently visited, or receive regular information from a settlement or "Area of Knowledge" (AoK). Information for this situation overview was collected from key informants in Bor Protection of Civilians (PoC) site, Bor Town and Akobo Town in Jonglei State, in April, May and June 2019.

In-depth interviews on humanitarian needs were conducted throughout the month using a structured survey tool. After data collection was completed, all data was aggregated at settlement level, and settlements were assigned the modal or most credible response. When no consensus could be found for a settlement, that settlement was not included in reporting.

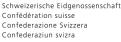
Only counties with interview coverage of at least 5% of all settlements<sup>1</sup> in a given month were included in analysis. Due to access and operational constraints, the specific settlements assessed within each county each month vary. In order to reduce the likelihood that variations in data are attributable to coverage differences, over time analyses were only conducted for counties with at least 70% consistent payam coverage over the period.<sup>2</sup> Canal/Pigi did not meet this threshold, and has therefore been excluded from the overall trend analysis of Jonglei State.

Quantitative findings were triangulated with FGDs and secondary sources. More details of the methodology can be found in the <u>AoK ToRs</u>.

 To calculate the percentage of AoK coverage, the total number of settlements per county is based on OCHA settlement lists in addition to new settlements mapped by KIs reached each month.

- 2. "Payam" refers to the administrative unit below the county level.
- 3. Greater Akobo includes Nyirol, Uror and Akobo counties.

4. Greater Bor South includes Bor South, Twic East and Duk counties





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7. KI interview. Akobo Town. 8. REACH Port and Road Monitoring, Akobo, June 2019. 9. KI interview, Akobo Town, June

slightly from the previous reporting period,

with 54% of assessed settlements reporting

IDP presence in June compared to 64% in

March. The proportion of assessed settlements

reporting the presence of IDPs decreased by

30 and 23 percentage points respectively in

Akobo and Bor South between March and June

(2% and 48% in June). Only 15% of assessed

settlements in Bor South reported IDP arrivals

in the 6 months prior to data collection in June;

this decrease in the proportion of assessed

settlements reporting IDP arrivals could be

linked to increased insecurity along the main

road between Duk Padiet and Bor South, which

deterred movement.<sup>6</sup> Poor road access along

this route from April, due to the onset of wet

season, meant IDPs would have to move by

foot, likely reducing the numbers making the

In Akobo County, two factors likely caused

a reduction in the proportion of assessed

settlements reporting IDP presence. Firstly, it

was reported that no cars were driving between

Akobo East and West, limiting access between

these two locations, as many were reluctant

to travel by foot due to insecurity.7 Secondly.

despite 100% of assessed settlements reporting

IDP arrivals to Akobo in the 3-6 months prior to

June data collection. REACH Port and Road

Monitoring (PRM) data indicated IDPs were

moving on to Ethiopia in order to access food

and education services, a movement which has

been reported annually at the start of the rainy

Uror and Canal/Pigi counties had the highest

proportions of assessed settlements reporting

the presence of IDPs in their settlement,

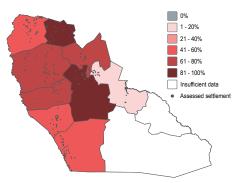
5. FGD with participants from Yuai, Uror County, April 2019

6. FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, April 2019

journey.

season.8

Map 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of IDPs in the settlement, June 2019



unchanged from March, with 89% and 88% of assessed settlements reporting this respectively in June. In Canal/Pigi, 67% of assessed settlements reported IDP arrival in the 3 months prior to June data collection, indicating very recent displacements. In Duk, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of IDPs increased by 12 percentage points in June, to 80%, likely because poor road access to Bor South reduced displacement options outside of Duk County.<sup>9</sup>

Flooding was reported in parts of Greater Akobo in June: in the third week of June. it was reported that there was a high chance of displacement if rainfall continued in Uror and Nyirol, likely locally, as there were reportedly few locations to which households could move due to flooded roads. As previously outlined households in Akobo East were similarly unable to travel to Akobo West, due to heavy rains and impassable roads.<sup>10, 11</sup>

Despite an overall decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting IDP presence. drivers of displacement reportedly remained

10. KI interview. Akobo Town. June.

11. REACH Port and Road Monitoring, Akobo, June 2019

12. FGDs with: KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, April 2019; KIs from Twic East, displaced to Bor Town, June 2019; Kls from Uror, displaced to Akobo Town, June 2019; KIs from Akobo West, displaced

similar to March; access to services and better guarantee of security, as the subsequent sections outline.

#### Food, water and service-driven movement

Access to food and livelihoods was reportedly a driver for displacement across Jonglei. FGDs with recently displaced individuals indicated that food, water and service access were determining factors for displacement, often in combination with security concerns.<sup>12</sup> For example, there were reportedly small-scale conflicts between Dome Payam (Ulang County, Upper Nile State) and Chuil Pavam of Nvirol in May 2019 over available water sources.13 FGD participants who recently arrived to the Bor PoC site reported a mass displacement of individuals from eastern Nyirol to either Lankien or Ethiopia, while a minority of households with the financial means travelled to the Bor PoC site.

High market prices were also frequently cited in FGDs as a driving force for displacement. With the price of the South Sudanese Pound (SSP) rising against the US Dollar, FGD participants previously living in locations such as Duk and Twic East counties reported that inflation impacted access to food. In Duk Padiet, KIs reported an increase in market prices from

#### Figure 1: Primary reported reason for leaving Akobo for locations in Ethiopia in June 2019<sup>14</sup>

to Akobo Town, April 2019

13. FGD with KIs from Nyirol displaced to the Bor PoC site, June 2019.

14. REACH Port and Road Monitoring, Akobo, June 2019.

in Greater Bor South<sup>4</sup> and Greater Akobo. Cattle raiding was reportedly widespread and a key concern for protection for both men and boys, alongside high risks of revenge killing and child abduction.<sup>5</sup> Women reportedly remained at risk of domestic violence, and arranged marriage was the main reported protection concern for girls, particularly in Greater Bor South.

- The proportion of assessed settlements reporting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) living in improvised shelters increased in Duk County (from 54% of assessed settlements in March to 83% in June) and Bor South County (from 10% of assessed settlements in March to 40% in June), likely due to an increase in internal displacement.
- · Whilst access to boreholes reportedly remained consistently high between March and June. the lack of access to improved water sources remained critical in Fangak and Canal/Pigi counties, where the majority of assessed settlements reported rivers and swamps as their main water source in June. Latrine use remained low, especially in Duk and Fangak, where 67% and 81% of assessed settlements reported not using latrines in June. There was also an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting malaria as their primary health concern across Jonglei State.

#### **Population** Movement and Displacement

The proportion of assessed settlements in Jonglei State reporting the presence of IDPs decreased

April to June 2019, especially in comparison to prices in Bor Town. In Bor Town market, FGD participants reported that 50kg of sorghum or maize flour worth 7,000 SSP was reportedly sold at 9,500 SPP in Duk Padiet in April 2019, with prices expected to remain high.<sup>15, 16</sup>

In Twic East, high market prices in Wernyol were reportedly the result of reduced road access from Bor.<sup>17</sup> However, despite the increase in market prices in Duk and Twic East, displacement options were reportedly limited by the increased cost of transportation to Bor South. In June, FGD participants displaced in April from Duk to Bor South reported that despite growing food insecurity in the region, only those who could afford the transportation costs (approximately 5,000 SSP per person) were able to leave.<sup>18</sup> Many of those who could not afford to travel to Bor Town instead moved locally to swamp areas to access fish.<sup>19</sup>

Inadequate access to food reportedly triggered displacement from the Greater Akobo region via Akobo West (Walgak) to Akobo Town. FGD participants from Yuai reported that they had inadequate access to food in the town, and decided to travel to Akobo Town via Pulchuol, Motot, Waat and Walgak settlements before arriving in Akobo Village 3. Despite the perceived danger of the journey, participants reported it was necessary, in order to access goods and services.<sup>20</sup>

#### **Insecurity-driven displacement**

Displacement continued to be driven by insecurity across key locations in Jonglei. In April and May, this was mostly caused by the

annual spike in cattle-raiding due to the return of cattle from the cattle camps to settlements in Jonglei State.<sup>21</sup>

Localised insecurity reportedly pushed households to move to destinations that were perceived to have better security. Arrivals to Akobo East from Walgak Town (Akobo West) reported moving to Akobo East due to conflict in Walgak between January and March 2019: displacement was reportedly still taking place in April due to this, with many households also reportedly intending to move to Lankien or Akobo East and on to Ethiopia in the future.<sup>22</sup> Others reportedly intended to permanently stay in Akobo East until the conflict subsided. FGD participants displaced to Akobo Town from Uror reported localised conflict had caused this displacement,<sup>23</sup> and there was an increased fear of insecurity on the road between Walgak and Akobo Town with reports of attacks on the route.<sup>24</sup> This insecure road access drove many from Yuai to go to Lankien instead.<sup>25</sup>

Cattle raiding, usually more frequent in April and May,<sup>26</sup> reportedly triggered displacement in some parts of Jonglei. Recent cattle raiding in Duk County in April disrupted local livelihood activities, and a fear of possible revenge attacks caused many households to leave the area. In April, the cost of travel to Bor South remained high, and this was a barrier for many individuals who could not afford the journey. By May, the heavy rains had reportedly restricted car access completely. FGD participants in Bor Town in April reported their desire to return to Duk if there was a reduction in cattle raiding and inter-communal violence in the area.

#### Figure 2: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of self-reported returnees in June 2019



FGD participants from Nyirol reported a spike in violence across the region due to increases in cattle returning to the area from cattle camps, resulting in cattle raiding and revenge killings. FGD participants from Nyirol County also reported that a large proportion of the community had left for Sudanese and Ethiopian refugee camps in search of safety.<sup>27</sup>

River access between Bor and Fangak reportedly re-opened in April 2019.<sup>28</sup> This could increase access to more locations for displaced populations from northern Jonglei in the coming months.

#### Self-reported returns

The proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of returnees remained steady between March and June (55% in June 2019), however, there were fluctuations in individual regions, including an increase in Nyirol County, from 55% of assessed settlements in March to 76% in June 2019. This is likely due to the onset of the cultivation season, as people returned to plant and tend crops, as well as reported tensions in the Gambella Region.<sup>29</sup> Meanwhile, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting returnees in Bor South decreased by 25 percentage points

between March and June (27% of assessed settlements in June 2019). This was likely due to poor road access preventing the safe passage of households wishing to return to Bor Town. In Duk, there was a 19 percentage point decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of returnees, perhaps a result of limited road access during the rainy season and localised violence in the area in the second quarter of 2019.

REACH PRM in Akobo tracks the movement of South Sudanese traveling to and returning from Ethiopia, most often to the refugee camps in the Gambella region. PRM tracking in April and May 2019 indicated that, among the population assessed, there were more individuals returning to South Sudan than departing to Ethiopia. This was reportedly mostly driven by family reunification and the desire to support the beginning of the cultivation season.<sup>30</sup> Similar reasons for returns were identified by FGD participants from Uror, who reported that returnees from the Gambella region were coming back to prepare for cultivation.<sup>31</sup>

In June in Akobo, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting the presence of returnees remained high (100% of assessed settlements in June). However, according to PRM data, more assessed households were reportedly departing to Ethiopia than returning to South Sudan in June.<sup>32</sup> This was reportedly due to the presence of food distributions and health services in Ethiopia; 35% and 14% of assessed households respectively reported this as the primary pull factor for moving to Ethiopia in June PRM findings, similar to trends in previous

### 3 **REACH** An initiative of IMPACT Initiatives ACTED and UNOSAT

FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town.
 At June rates, USD 1:310 SSP. 7000 SSP was therefore equivalent to 23 USD 17. FGD with KIs from Twic East, displaced to Bor Town, June 2019 18. At June rates, 5000 SSP was equivalent to 16 USD

19. FGD with KIs from Twic East, displaced to Bor Town, June 2019 20. FGD with KIs from Akobo West, displaced to Akobo Town, April 2019

- 22. FGD with KIs from Akobo West, displaced to Akobo Town, April 2019.
- 23. FGD with KIs from Uror, displaced to Akobo Town, June 2019
- 24. This is the main car route from Greater Akobo to Akobo Town
- 25. FGD with KIs from Uror, displaced to Akobo Town, June 2019
- 26. FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, April 2019
- 27. FGD with KIs from Nyirol displaced to the Bor PoC site, June 2019.
- 28. FGD with KIs from Fangak, displaced to the Bor PoC site, April 2019
- 29. REACH Port and Road Monitoring, Akobo, April May and June 2019.
- 30. REACH Port and Road Monitoring Akobo, April May 2019.
- 31. FGD with KIs from Uror, displaced to Akobo Town, June 2019
- 32. REACH Port and Road Monitoring Akobo, June 2019

reporting periods. Despite local reports in June of limited boat access between Market Port (Akobo) and Ethiopia, many households reportedly walked to Ethiopia to access these services.<sup>33</sup>

Perceived tensions with the host community in Ethiopia continued to drive returns back to locations in Greater Akobo throughout April and May, with 28% and 17% of assessed households respectively reporting this as the primary push factor.<sup>34</sup> However this figure decreased to only 10% of assessed households in June, likely due to the relative increase in population movement back to Ethiopia in June 2019.

# Situation in Assessed Settlements

#### Food security and livelihoods (FSL)

Insecurity and the onset of the rainy season continued to compromise food security in assessed settlements in Jonglei State. In June, 44% of assessed settlements reported inadequate access to food, consistent with the previous quarter. In addition, high proportions of assessed settlements continued to report relying on coping strategies to reduce food consumption gaps.

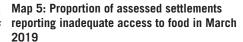
#### Bor South, Twic East and Duk

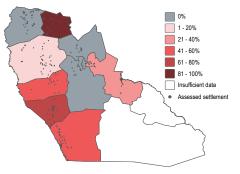
Bor South, Twic East and Duk counties had amongst the lowest proportions of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in Jonglei State (with the exception of Canal/ Pigi). Reported adequate access to food in Bor South remained unchanged since March, with 46% of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in June, likely due to the interruption in the supply route from Juba during the rainy season. The proportion of assessed settlements in Twic East reporting the consumption of only one meal a day remained unchanged between March and June (76% in June), however, Twic East also saw a 13 percentage point decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate

percentage point decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food (21% in June). This trend of declining access to food has been reported in Twic East since quarter 4 of 2018; between December 2018 and March 2019 there was a 15% percentage point decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food.

In Duk, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food increased by 14 percentage points between March and June (40% in June 2019). As livestock rearing was reported as both the main livelihood source and source of food in assessed settlements in Duk County in June, this reported increase in access to food was likely due to the annual return of cattle to settlements in April and May.

In Duk and Bor South, the most commonly reported reason for inadequate access to food in June was an increase in food prices (13% and 11% of assessed settlements that reported inadequate access to food respectively). FGD participants from Duk, who were recently displaced to Bor South, reported that the high prices of food in Duk markets placed families at risk of hunger and sickness.<sup>35</sup> In June, in Twic East, of assessed settlements that reported inadequate access to food, 26% reported that this was because of an increase in food prices, and 26% reported it was due to a reduction in





humanitarian food assistance. FGD participants displaced from Twic East to Bor Town in May reported that a lack of access to typical livelihood sources such as livestock selling, fishing, and charcoal making was causing continued dependence on humanitarian food assistance.<sup>36</sup>

Similar to the previous reporting period, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting cultivation as a primary source of food was low in Duk and Twic East (0% of assessed settlements for both counties) and Bor South (2%). FGD participants from Twic East reported that despite attempts to cultivate in the previous planting season, the growing season was short and pests attacked crops, forcing households to sell livestock to obtain money to buy food.37 Twenty-one percent (21%) of assessed settlements in both Bor South and Twic East reported purchased food as the main source of food, with a further 12% and 21% respectively reporting livestock as the main source of food. The proportion of assessed settlements reporting purchased food as the main source of

food has decreased from the previous reporting period, most likely due to rising food prices and a reduction in road access for markets.

Insecurity continued to impact access to food and livelihoods, particularly in Twic East and Duk counties. The proportion of assessed settlements reporting that it was not safe to access land as the primary reason they could not access enough food increased from 6% to 35% in Twic East from March to June, and from 4% to 39% in Duk in the same period. This is likely due to the seasonal return of cattle to assessed settlements in this region, and the associated increase in cattle raiding and intercommunal violence. FGD participants from Twic East reported an increase in criminality in the county, with individuals monitoring cattle movement to prepare for raiding.<sup>38</sup> In Duk, FGD participants reported that the insecurity caused by cattle raiding and inter-communal violence impacted household access to cattle when they returned from the swamp regions (Tooc Island) to settlements.39

#### Ayod, Fangak and Canal/Pigi

The proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in Ayod and Fangak remained some of the highest

# Figure 3: Main reported reason for inadequate access to food in assessed settlements in June 2019

Food distribution stopped	29 %	
Insecurity	21 %	
High prices of food	16 %	
No nets (sickness)	6 %	
Lack of rain	5 %	•

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33. PRM assessments are done at the household level, but findings are indicative only.

- 34. REACH Port and Road Monitoring Akobo, June 2019
- $35.\ \mbox{FGD}$  with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, May 2019

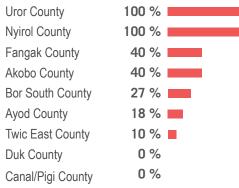
36. FGD with KIs from Twic East displaced to Bor Town, May 2019 37. Ibid.

38. Ibid

39. FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, May 2019

<sup>37.</sup> IDI

#### Figure 4: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting humanitarian assistance as the main source of food in June 2019



in Jonglei, with 91% and 100% of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in June. The proportion of assessed settlements reporting this increased by 18 percentage points in Fangak between March and June, and remained the same in Ayod over the same period. Ninety-three percent (93%) and 100% of assessed settlements in Avod and Fangak respectively reported that most people consumed at least two meals a day. However, reported adequate access to food in Fangak is most likely sustained by humanitarian food assistance, as 40% of assessed settlements in Fangak reported this as their main source of food in June. Adequate access to food could also be due to increased access to swamp regions for fishing at this time of year.

In Ayod and Fangak, high proportions of assessed settlements reported crops for sustenance (100% for both) and livestock rearing (100% and 98% respectively) as livelihood sources. Seventy-six percent (76%) and 45% of assessed settlements in Ayod and Fangak respectively reported cultivation as the

primary source of food. Therefore, reliance on humanitarian food assistance in Fangak was likely due to ongoing challenges with livestock and cultivation; in April 2019, there were reportedly cattle disease outbreaks in areas such as Bi, Kuernyaang and Man-nyajaakand Tabuong.<sup>40</sup> Furthermore, FGD participants from Fangak reported food shortages due to a lack of rain. These two factors may have driven an increased reliance on humanitarian food assistance.41 Similar issues were reported in Pajiek, Nyayin, Padek, Wau, Kenen and Haat in Avod in June, with participants reporting a poor 2018 harvest, and regional drought in 2019 which impacted the beginning of the planting season.42

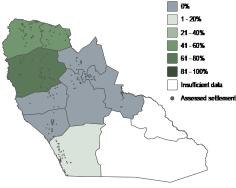
The proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food in Canal/Pigi remained low, with 8% of assessed settlements reporting this in June, unchanged from March. Additionally, 65% of assessed settlements reported hunger to be severe in June. Whilst new arrivals were reported as the main reason people could not access enough food in March (27% of assessed settlements which reported inadequate access to food), in June, the primary reported reason was a lack of nets (26% of assessed settlements which reported inadequate access to food).

Reported primary sources of food in Canal/ Pigi changed slightly over the reporting period, with an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting reliance on fishing between March and June; 32% of assessed settlements reported fishing as the main source of food, and 60% reported fishing as the main livelihood source in June. Cultivation remained

a commonly reported source of food, with a slight decrease in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting this between March (60% of assessed settlements) and June (44%). Eighty-four percent (84%) of assessed settlements reporting cultivation for cash as the main livelihood source in June.

Across the region, despite the onset of the rainy season, wild foods were reportedly regularly consumed as part of the main meal in Avod, Fangak and Canal/Pigi in June (78%, 90% and 96% of assessed settlements respectively). Consuming wild foods is not uncommon in this region, however in Fangak and Canal/Pigi, 90% and 72% of assessed settlements that reported consuming wild food reported that this consumption was making them sick. In addition, 76% of assessed settlements in Canal/Pigi reported wild foods constituted more than half of the main meal. This raises health concerns for settlements in this region, who were heavily reliant on unpredictable sources of food which were frequently making them unwell.

Map 6: Proportion of assessed settlements in Jonglei reporting cultivation as the main source of food in June 2019



#### Greater Akobo

There was an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adequate access to food across Greater Akobo between March and June, with 67%, 100% and 100% of assessed settlements in Akobo, Uror, and Nyirol respectively reporting adequate access to food in June 2019. However, whilst access to food has reportedly improved in Greater Akobo, food insecurity remains severe, and slight improvements are likely due to humanitarian food assistance, rather than any significant change in FSL circumstances.

As in the previous reporting period, the main source of food for assessed settlements across Greater Akobo was humanitarian food assistance. Between March and June 2019, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting food assistance as the main source of food increased by 10, 17 and 24 percentage points respectively in Akobo, Uror and Nyirol (40% of assessed settlements in Akobo, 100% in Uror and 100% in Nyirol). In Akobo, 21% of assessed settlements reported family and friends as the main source of food in June, a 17 percentage point increase from March 2019 (4%). Reliance on friends and family for food puts a strain on additional households, likely compounding the risk of food insecurity throughout the population.

Insecurity and looting continued to limit access to food and livelihoods in Greater Akobo during the assessment period. Humanitarian assistance was provided in areas such as Walgak (Akobo West), but FGD participants displaced to Akobo Town reported that resources had been looted, whilst a fire in April destroyed stocks, meaning there was an increased reliance on cultivation

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40. FGD with KIs from Fangak displaced to Bor PoC site, May 2019. 41. Ibid

42. FGD with KIs from Ayod displaced to the Bor PoC site, June 2019

despite the previous harvest being insufficient to support household needs.<sup>43</sup> Similarly, according to reports in Akobo Town, trade routes were disrupted in Uror and Nyirol due to both looting and poor weather conditions, increasing prices in local markets.<sup>44</sup>

Cattle raiding also reportedly continued to impact on livelihoods and food security in Greater Akobo. In Uror, FGD participants reported that cattle raiding meant typical annual improvements in food access due to cattle returning from the cattle camps were not taking place, prompting greater dependence on humanitarian food assistance.45 FGD participants reported selling livestock to buy food as a typical coping mechanism, but reported that frequent cattle raiding also meant that this was not possible for some households.<sup>46</sup> Cultivation was disrupted by frequent displacement due to conflict, and people reportedly had limited access to land due to the presence of cattle raiding groups in the bush.<sup>47</sup>

Insecurity surrounding cattle raiding in Nyirol reportedly impacted typical household livelihood sources in settlements such as Limkoon, Panyang and Lankien. FGD participants reported that men and boys increasingly had to remain within the compound for protection from revenge killings, whilst women and girls were required to take cattle and goats to grazing lands. Due to protection concerns, women could only graze animals at the periphery of the settlement, limiting access to good pasture needed for the cattle to remain healthy.<sup>48</sup>

#### **Coping Strategies**

Coping strategies were reportedly adopted to

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overcome limited access to food. Overall, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting consumption coping strategies decreased during the second quarter of 2019 (see figure 5); this is likely due to increased opportunities for cultivation and access to cattle during the rainy season.

Limiting portion sizes remained the most commonly reported consumption coping strategy; 41% of assessed settlements reported this in June, a 27 percentage point decrease from March 2019. However, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting adults skipping meals to prioritise children remained unchanged (27% in June 2019).<sup>49</sup> FGD participants from Mareang, Paguir and Kuong settlements in Fangak reported adopting this coping strategy when households were extremely food insecure.<sup>50</sup> This suggests that a portion of the population remained severely food insecure despite the overall level of food security reportedly increasing slightly.

FGD participants from Duk reported that during food shortages, most families relied on family networks, friends and neighbours.<sup>51</sup> This is reflected in the high proportion of assessed settlements reporting borrowing food as the main livelihood coping strategy, with 48% of assessed settlements in June reporting this as the main means to access food. However, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting this coping strategy decreased by 17 percentage points between March and July, suggesting households increasingly lack the resources to assist each other.

In Duk, Twic East and Bor South a high proportion of assessed settlements reportedly moved to displacement camps to access assistance (60%, 62% and 63% of assessed

settlements respectively). No other assessed county apart from Akobo (12%) reportedly adopted this coping strategy, indicating a likely relationship between lack of food and displacement in these areas (see displacement section for more details).

#### Protection

Insecurity led to reported protection concerns in pockets across Jonglei, and limited access to goods and services. The proportion of assessed settlements in Jonglei State reporting people felt safe most of the time remained unchanged from the previous reporting period (76% in June). However, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting feeling unsafe were high in Duk and Twic East. In Duk, only 33% of assessed settlements reported residents feeling safe most of the time in June, a decrease from 63% in March. Only 13% of assessed settlements in Duk reported the incidents of conflict which resulted in the death of a civilian, but 47% of assessed settlements in Duk reported cattle raiding as the main protection concern for men, and 40% of assessed settlements reported sexual violence as the main protection concern for women. In Twic East, 28% of assessed settlements reported incidents of conflict in the last month resulting in the death of a civilian.

Cattle raiding related violence and child abduction continued to be commonly reported protection concerns for men and boys. However, killing or injury by members of another community (associated with revenge killings, and often with cattle raiding) was the most commonly reported main protection concern across Jonglei in June. Canal/ Pigi had

Figure 5: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting the adoption of consumption coping strategies from the previous three reporting periods

43. FGD with KIs from Akobo West displaced to Akobo Town, April 2019
44. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to Akobo Town, May 2019
45. Ibid

46. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to Akobo Town, May 2019. 47. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to Akobo Town, June 2019

34%

Eat less

expensive food

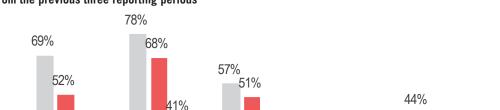
48. FGD with KIs from Nyirol displaced to the Bor PoC site, May 2019
49. Only a 10% difference is considered a change.
50. FGD with KIs from Fangak displaced to the Bor PoC site, May 2019
51. FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, May 2019

Only children eat

16%<sub>13%</sub>

Skip days

Jun-19



8%

of meals

Limit meal size Reduce number

December-18 March-19

the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting killing or injury by another community as the primary protection concern for men, with 36% of assessed settlements reporting this in June 2019. This could be due to the presence of cattle camps in Canal/Pigi on the border with Upper Nile State, resulting in patterns of violence related to cattle raiding affecting settlements in that area.

Greater Bor continued to have large proportions of assessed settlements reporting protection concerns associated with cattle raiding, especially in Duk, where 47% of assessed settlements reported cattle raids as the main protection concern for men in June, and in Twic East (14% of assessed settlements) and Bor Soth (10%). In addition, high proportions of assessed settlements in Bor South reported killing or injury by members of another community (Duk 13%, Twic East 21%, and Bor South 13%), which was not reported in any other county save Akobo (2%) in June. Child abduction remained one of the primary protection concerns for boys between March and June, again with a particularly high proportion of assessed settlements reporting this in Duk (27% of assessed settlements). Twic East (31%), and Bor South (13%) in June. This is likely due to boys returning from the relatively well-protected cattle camps to home settlements, and therefore being more exposed to potential abduction.

Early marriage continued to be the main protection concern for girls across Jonglei, with 26% of assessed settlements reporting this as the main protection concern for girls in June. Similar to the two previous reporting periods Figure 6: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting most residents feeling safe most of the time in June 2019



(October to December 2018 and January to March 2019), Duk, Twic East and Bor South had the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting early marriage as the primary protection concern in June (93%, 69% and 58% of assessed settlements respectively). Assessed settlements also reported early marriage as the main protection concern in Canal/Pigi (16% of assessed settlements), Akobo (7%) and Uror (6%).

Unchanged from the previous reporting period, domestic violence remained the most commonly reported protection concern for women (25% of assessed settlements in June 2019). The proportion of assessed settlements reporting sexual violence and tensions with neighbours as the main protection concern remained the same (9% and 6% of assessed settlements respectively). FGD participants from Ayod County reported an increase in intercommunal violence, targeted towards women and girls, particularly in bush areas between Tayien, Bilegal and Luahldiew.<sup>52</sup>

#### Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

In this reporting period, IDPs continued to live in more precarious conditions compared to other population groups. Of assessed settlements which reported IDP presence in June, 19% reported IDPs were mainly living in improvised shelters. There was an increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting most IDPs were living in improvised shelters in Duk and Bor South, increasing by 29 and 30 percentage points respectively (83% and 40% of assessed settlements in June). This is likely due to flooding in Bor South, which resulted in the destruction of houses and displacement; for example, there was reportedly significant damage to shelters in Langbaar, in the northern region of Bor Town, where over 100 houses were reportedly destroyed due to flash flooding.<sup>53</sup>

FGD participants reported poor shelter conditions for returnees in Padiet, Pieri and Yuai (Uror County) in June 2019. Participants from a FGD with new arrivals in the Bor PoC site reported that in Uror, where there was an increase in the number of people returning to assist with cultivation, new arrivals had to use plastic sheets to fashion improvised shelters, rather than sleeping in sturdier tukuls.<sup>54</sup>

Whilst mosquito nets continued to be the most frequently reported primary NFI need (20% of assessed settlements in June, unchanged from the previous reporting period), there was a 16 percentage point increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting plastic sheets as the main NFI need. This was particularly the case in Duk (67% of assessed settlements), Uror (38%) and Twic East (25%) in June, a 51, 26 and 25 percentage point increase from March 2019. This is likely due to high levels of displacement leading to an influx of IDPs in Duk and Uror (see displacement section).<sup>55</sup>

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Health

Unchanged from the previous reporting period, 76% of assessed settlements reported that there was at least one functional borehole within their settlement. The lowest proportions of assessed settlements reporting boreholes were in Fangak (19%) and Canal/Pigi (4%); 0% of assessed settlements in Canal/Pigi reported boreholes were functional. Ninety-eight percent (98%) and 64% of assessed settlements in Fangak and Canal/Pigi respectively reported rivers as the main source of drinking water in June; a 19 percentage point increase in the proportion of assessed settlements reporting this in Fangak since the previous reporting period. FGD participants from Fangak reported that the main concern for assessed settlements was related to water conditions. Overpopulation in semi-urban centres with insufficient access to boreholes was reportedly driving individuals to use swamps and rivers, increasing the likelihood of outbreaks of cholera and other waterborne diseases.56

#### Figure 7: Proportion of assessed settlements with IDPs reporting most IDPs were staying in improvised shelters in June 2019

Duk County	83 %	
Bor South County	40 %	
Twic East County	19 %	-
Nyirol County	9 %	
Uror County	6 %	1 - C
Akobo County	0 %	
Ayod County	0 %	
Fangak County	0 %	
Canal/Pigi	0 %	

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52. FGD with KIs from Ayod displaced to the Bor PoC site, May 2019
53. KI interview, Bor Town, June
54. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to the Bor PoC site, June 2019

55. FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, April 2019 56. FGD with KIs from Fangak displaced to the Bor PoC site, April 2019. Even in regions with access to boreholes, FGD participants reported long queues at boreholes, raising protection concerns for women and children who had to wait in public areas after dark.<sup>57,58</sup> In June, 15% of assessed settlements across Jonglei State reported that they could not access their preferred water source due to fears for their safety, a slight reduction compared to March (24% of assessed settlements). Consistent with reports of insecurity, Duk County had the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting this in June (53%).

The proportion of assessed settlements reporting use of latrines in June (45%) remained consistent with the previous reporting period. However, of assessed settlements reporting latrine use, only 2% of assessed settlements reported that more than half of the settlement did so. Of assessed settlements which reported not using latrines, 40% reported that the primary reason was that they were not available, with the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting this in Canal/Pigi (78%) and Duk (50%). FGD participants from Duk reported that there were no latrines due to a shortage of building materials, and recent flooding which had destroyed existing latrines.<sup>59</sup>

The proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to health services within walking distance remained at 93% (unchanged from the previous reporting period), with Canal/ Pigi and Bor South having the lowest proportion of assessed settlements reporting access, at 36% and 12% of assessed settlements respectively. Across Jonglei State, the most commonly reported reason for the lack of access to health services was no staff; of the

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7% of assessed settlements reporting a lack of access to health care services in June, 57% reported that this was because there were no staff.

Similar to the previous reporting period, malaria was the most common primary health problem. reported by 33% of assessed settlements in June. FGD participants from Duk reported that despite the presence of health services within walking distance, many were overcrowded due to an increase in the IDP population. As a consequence, many people reportedly could not participate in cultivation because they were too unwell to work.<sup>60</sup> In Uror, FGD participants reported that serious health cases had to be referred to Lankien in Nyirol County since many health care services had been destroyed by conflict. With long distances to travel to Lankien, some people reportedly were unable to access this service, or died on the journey.<sup>61</sup>

#### Education

Despite the onset of the rainy season and reduced road access, access to education remained the same during the reporting period, with 80% of assessed settlements across Jonglei State reporting that education services were available within walking distance from their settlement. However, in Canal/Pigi, the proportion of assessed settlements reporting access to education decreased, from 27% in March to 16% in June. This was reportedly due to a lack of educational facilities, reported by 25% of assessed settlements, similar to the previous reporting period.

Fangak County had high levels of access to education services in June, with 93% of assessed settlements reporting this. However,

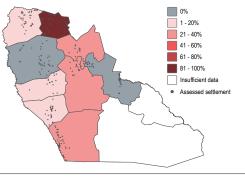
FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, April 2019;
 FGD with KIs from Nyirol displaced to Akobo Town, May 2019.
 FGD with KIs from Duk displaced to Bor Town, May 2019.
 Ibid

for assessed settlements reporting insufficient access, 100% reported that the main reason for this was due to a lack of education facilities. According to FGD participants, many pupils were studying under trees throughout the county, since many of the school buildings were destroyed in 2013.

Fear of violence impacted school attendance in some areas of Jonglei State. Sixteen percent (16%) of assessed settlements across Jonglei State reported security as the main reason they could not access education services. In Uror, FGD participants reported that insecurity was deterring school attendance, due to concerns of child abduction whilst children were walking to school, which had a particularly detrimental effect on male attendance.<sup>62</sup>

Reported female and male school attendance remained consistent between March and June across Jonglei State; 31% of assessed settlements reported that more than half of girls aged 6-17 years attended school, and 65% reported that more than half of boys in the same age group attended. The most commonly reported reason for lower levels of girls' attendance in comparison to boys' amongst

Map 7: Proportion of assessed settlements reporting educational services were not available in June 2019



61. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to the Bor PoC site. June 2019.62. FGD with KIs from Uror displaced to the Bor PoC site. June 2019.

assessed settlements was the need for girls to work in the household, reported by 14% of assessed settlements in June.

### Conclusion

Whilst there were instances of improvements in FSL, likely due to increased access to livestock and humanitarian food assistance, continued localised violence and displacement have disrupted agriculture and cattle-rearing activities, potentially reducing this season's yield and impacting food security for Jonglei State in the long-term. WASH concerns, exacerbated by the onset of the rainy season, have increased the risk of disease, which in turn may increase food insecurity and malnutrition, critically in regions of northern Jonglei. Overall, humanitarian needs have remained constant across all sectors in Jonglei, with some slight improvements during this last guarter.

#### **About REACH Initiative**

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

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